Rec'd Sept 25th.

Dr George Engelmann

St. Louis. Mo.

San Luis Potosí – Mexico

September 4th. 1878

My dear Sir!

Our esteemed friend Lt. C. C. Parry starts from this place a month ago, he stays now at Monterey, where he must take the stage coach to San Antonio Tex.

Rains have been very rare seven years before, thereof we could not have a good vegetation in this year, and Dr. Parry a better collection.

By this mail I send to you two small sacs of seeds the one "Tuna Cardona" is a very good and useful fruit of this locality, the other "Tuna Crija" and I hope by and by to send to you little more, to day are not yet dry, specially a small collection of agave seeds. I think You can make grow this seeds in Mr Shaw's hothouses. Please present him my respects and ask if he wants some seeds of this place.

Much obliged by yours favors — my respects to Miss's Engelmann and Dr. Jr.

Yours ever sincere friend

G. Barroeta.

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Rec June 27th
Ans July 20

Dr. Geo. Engelmann

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S. L. Potosí Méxco June 10th 1879.

My dear friend

I have heard through Dr Parry of the great affliction wich has befallen you, I will no longer revive an inconsolable grief, but by death in this last five years of my four brothers and uncle I have so suffered my self as to entitle me to sim pathize with those who weep. Please present my condolence to your son and specially for his accident and disease.

Dear Parras wine was not of the best, it was sent from Parras to New York and I could not taste yet can consult dr. Parry's vote.

By mail have sent you no less than six or eight sacc with Opuntia, mammillaria, cereus, agaves and others seeds: according your letter 4th May last I know you have not received, but I repeat to day another remission of seeds by mail.

I could not go to the mountains with dr Ed. Palmer, but give him your list and he collected the oaks, euphorbia and others, you must receive by his kindnes.

Thank you by your introduction to the von Müller of Melbourne, he has sent me two of his interesting botanical books

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The bundle of spines you sent makes me able to recognize the Opuntia tunicata, it grows wild in this vicinity, his common name is Clarellina. The opuntia imbricata is named in Nahuatl language Xoconostli and his fruit is very useful for preserves and others. I don't remember to have seen the flowers of the tunicata so soon as I received your letter I look for, but the flowering was passed and could only get fruits. I have now in my yard some specimens and I seek the flowers, so soon they give, would be sent to you I enclose a bundle of spines of the opuntia Clarellina, please tell me if this is the tunicata you wont, I hope in expecting your answer they can flower, and be sent to you after their identification, without any mistake, because there are great many opuntias in this place. A variety perhaps of this tunicata, is one with red spines, have not received yet a good specimen to be sent. This seen at distance in the fields, looks like sheeps (the white) and induces in error the unexperienced traveller.

Hoping to hear from you soon again I will notice you that without your permission I am translating to Spanish your "Sinopsis of American Flos" please excuse this boldness and believe me

very truly yours

G. Barroeta

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Rec Octl 27
Ans Nov 24

1

San Luis Potosi September 12 - 1879.

My dear Dr. Engelmann:

Yours from Aarenfurt was received four days ago. Thanks for wishes of my success between so dear friends. But you say still better to be in this place. And that is not great difficulty, if you will take the steamer in New York, in 12 days you can reach Veracruz and seventeen hours after by a regular rail [illegible] of Mexico. If you please honour this Cactus country with your visit you can make the trip from the city of Mexico in four days by "diligence coach" not running by night, and if you telegraph at time I can go to the city of Mexico to meet you again, in order to avoid the difficulties of the language and others.

I care like in espionage the Opuntia tunicata, some friends and servants are in charge of the first flower; and hope this year can not finish without

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By this mail you must receive some seeds and fruits of Opuntia tunicata, our common Yucca with eatable dry fruits, Agave, the common Agave of this place — the Amolla fruits etc —

Please note that the word <u>Amolli</u> in the Nahuatl or mexican language means a plant useful for washing — that corresponds to the corrupted spanish word <u>Lechuguilla</u>, of this we have two species The <u>L. bronca</u> (A. lecheguilla) used on washing floors — brick floors, dishes, cristal, silver ware etc. etc. the other <u>L. mansa</u> is the best for washing dress, shirts, and great many people uses it for bath like soap, there is the belief that keeps good hair. The <u>bronca</u> produces in the skin an eruption similar to the Urticaria, is a round root, black epydermis and white inside. The <u>mansa</u> (A. filifera) — also the root is the usual part, grayish outside, yellow inside, produces greater froth than the bronca and very rare Urticaria; both them are worked to prepare the fibre a good textile, from the leaf. Number of mexican <u>lazo</u> this field and war implement are made with those fibres. There is sold in the market with the name of amolle also, the root fibres (+ Tough) of another I have not yet seen by me, but I expect to receive some specimens, to send you the notice.

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I could sent only by this steamer some dry fruits of "Chamaerops humilis" in a packet to the Director of the Botanic Garden - Cambridge, Massachusetts herb man has not yet taken the smaller, to day I expect in five days. The dates or Palm fruits, are not very ripe, but by next steamer I will send or deliver by frontier line via Texas and as we wont wish to expect thus long, steamer.

Please present my congratulations to your son and wife, I have not been in the Hanalea to collect for him some antiquities, but I think to go next December. The best epoch in the year to visit those low marsh lands of the State.

Hoping to have the honour of yours I remain

your very truly

G. Barroeta.

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Rec March 9th 1880

Dr G Damoeta

San Luis Potosi Mexico. January 28—1880

Yucca

Dr. Geo. Engelmann, St. Louis, Mo.

My dear Dr.

yours of 21st November last learns me that you have received the little box with seeds. You told me that you dont understand that our Yucca "Palm" should have a diameter of six feet (the largest), how high does it grow and if the trunk is all so thick or diminishes in diameter?

In common palms called "Palma China" that of narrow leaves, the trunk is nearly of the same size till two thirds of his total hight, in this point it is divided in branches of half a feet or one and a half ft. diameter with leaves and flower in the top of this narrow branches. A month ago I was in a farm NW of this place and I saw some ones of 45 and ~~50~~ 30 ft. high, but the mean hight I think is 30 ft or near. The higher has not the trunk very large, 2½ ft in the basis and 2 in the top with only two or three divisions very near the top so it not diminishes to much in diameter

The Palma Pita was of the common species narrow short leaves, and I saw in a place about 24 ft high, and 4 diameter, in the basis, and 3 ft. at nearly 18 ft (this hight where the division in branches.

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Is it the same as Palmer?

Dr J Barrocta San Luis Potosi
Jan 28 1878

The other common species but named Palma Loca has large leaves in undivided stem, (very few exceptions with two or three short branches in the top), diameter in the basis varies between 2 to 3 ft. and diminishes very little in the high L. Total length bet. 9 and 21 feet. I will sooner send to you the flowers, leaves, fibres and textile productions of both palms. Daniel always present (in Palma Christi drops)

Winter has been very dry, that is the reason for suppose why we have not yet flowers in Opuntias, but I expect they will come in a month or near and hope to make a good collection. The mail which you have received



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Dr G Barreta, San Luis Potosi, Jan 28 1880

Agave

In respect of Amalli we only posses the two species Lechuguilla mil Otame Bg. Silifera and Lechuguilla bronca; wild or rough Water in the every Agave produce some froth like soap, but the richer and so the useful and best for this purpose are this two. I speak only of this locality because in the neighbouring States, as Queretaro and Guanajuato there are another species of amole: & so Damas possible for shall receive flowers and fruits of our Lechuguillas.

Yes, the fibre is extracted

another species.

both species are very different of those cultivated for both purposes in the State of Puebla or Tlaxcala, and of course different taste in drinks acording the localities. The seeds you have last received are of the Agave species here cultivated for alcohol (Mescal)

I suppose you have tasted that drink, because Dr Parry books with him some bottles for specimens, it is very similar to the Swiss Gin; and people believes it to be a very good internal and external remedy for different complaints.

I have written

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of the leaves of both "Lechuguillas" for the lazo. That implement can be made of Agave fibre, and only of some species (of the common Agave) but is of very bad quality, the fibre is very inferior to the Lechuguilla fibre. The fibre of the Agave cultivated for Pulque is very poor and not used. In this place one species of Agave is cultivated for "Mescal" that is the alcohol of Magney a very common drink like the American Whiskey and a very productive industry in this farms, another species is cultivated only for Pulque and both species are very different of those cultivated for both purposes in the State of Puebla or Tlaxcala, and of course different taste in drinks acording the localities. The seeds you have last received are of the Agave species here cultivated for alcohol (Mescal)

I suppose you have tasted that drink, because Dr Parry took with him some bottles for specimens, it is very similar to the Swiss Gin; and people believes it to be a very good internal and external remedy for different complaints.

I have written

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San Luis Potosí — México

22nd September 1880.

4 Bundles

Dear Dr. By this mail you must receive
bundles of 'Palma leaves.' — belongs to the species Palma
loga
ca of wich you have before received flowers and
short leaves. They are divided into four packets beause
of the Postal rules forbidding to send packages heavier than
two hundred and fifty grammes. Hopping they will reach you
duly and should be very useful yet,

Believe me dear friend

Yours respectfully

Dr. Parroeta

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Via Brownsville Tex

Doctor. Geo. Engelmann Sen.

3003. Locust. St

St. Louis – Mo. U.S.A.

Por este lado solo debe escribirse la direccion.

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Rec June 7
Gs — 19

San Luis Potosí. México
May 20th — 1881

My dear Doctor Engelmann

hoffing that on re-
ceipt of this you have finished
your botanical work on your
collections from the West, I asked
to know some thing of them.
specially because of the
great connexion between this
and the Californian south
westerly region.

A very rare pheno-
menon in the regions I have
visited last winter, has
forbiden me to make a best
collection. In those <u>tierras</u> ca

Lienles ("warm Lands" as we call) no body has never seen before, the snow, and on 28th and 29th December after a very warm day the snow has fallen, but in great quanti ty, exactly as if I was in the Missouri country, - this was a very curious thing to see how the snowy particles melt as soon as they touched the ground as if it was a hot iron, and the splendid green vegetation borde red with the white of snow, and the astonishment of the inha bitants, and the great trouble of everybody not any residence is prepared to resist cold injuries, the are all very open and ventila

ted and no manner of classing. To
my botanical inquire those has
been a great difficulty because
every plant was of a yellow
colour the next day, and all
the field had an aspect absolu
tely yellow, the snow has reached
all the warm regions occasioning
great money loss in the coffee
rise, canare and banana plan
tations

About cactus I have seen
a curious opuntia without any
thorn, do not grows in this city
regions, another very narrow cylin
drical — From yucca you must
have a photograph I have sent
long ago of the opening of a forest

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of Palms in the road works
between S. Luis y Tampico" As
soon as posible I will send you
specimens.

Thinking you are inte
rested in the Meteorological
investigation I enclose the
Sinopsis of the year 1880
made in this city observatory

I have received a Pos
tal from our friend Dr Parry
dated in Colton Ca.

Yours very truly

G. Barroeta

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Rec'd May 17

San Luis Potosí — Méxic
April 25 — 1882

Dr. George Engelmann

Dear Dr

Without any of yours I have received your paper on "The Genus Soles in North America" for wich I present my gradeful thanks.

I have the pleasure to enclose the "Resumen" of the Meteorological Observations made in this city last year (1881)

Hopping this Observations should be of some utility to you

I remain dear Dr

Yours faithfully

G. Barroeta

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